

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Tennessee Board of Examiners for Land Surveyors

1. What are the requirements to become registered as a land surveyor in Tennessee?

The requirements are:

TCA 62-18-109(b)(1) Effective July 1, 2003, and except as provided in subdivision (b)(2), no person shall be eligible for registration as a professional land surveyor unless such person satisfies all requirements in any one of the following three categories:

CATEGORY A

1. ***Obtain a four-year baccalaureate degree in land surveying.***
2. ***Pass an eight-hour written exam, Fundamentals of Land Surveying (FS) selected by the Board.***
3. ***Submit evidence that you have obtained two years progressive experience on surveying projects working under the supervision of a licensed surveyor.***
4. ***Pass both written exams: the six hour Principles and Practices of Land Surveying (PS) and the two hour Tennessee State Jurisdictional exam (TS), selected by the Board.***

CATEGORY B

1. ***Obtain a baccalaureate degree in a science, engineering, or technology curriculum of four or more years related to the practice of land surveying, approved by the Board.***
2. ***Submit transcripts showing 24 additional semester hours of board approved course work in the surveying sciences.***
3. ***Pass an eight-hour written exam, Fundamentals of Land Surveying (FS), selected by the Board.***
4. ***Submit evidence that you have obtained two years of progressive experience on surveying projects working under the supervision of a licensed surveyor.***
5. ***Pass both written exams: the six hour Principles and Practices of Land Surveying (PS) and the two hour Tennessee State Jurisdictional exam (TS), selected by the Board.***

CATEGORY C

1. ***Obtain a baccalaureate degree from a non-surveying related curriculum of four or more years, approved by the Board.***
2. ***Submit transcripts showing 36 additional semester hours of board approved course work in the surveying sciences.***
3. ***Pass an eight-hour written exam, Fundamentals of Land Surveying (FS), selected by the Board.***
4. ***Submit evidence that you have obtained two years of progressive experience on surveying projects working under the supervision of a licensed surveyor.***
5. ***Pass both written exams: the six hour Principles and Practices of Land Surveying (PS) and the two hour Tennessee State Jurisdictional exam (TS), selected by the Board.***

OR

Any person who submits evidence satisfactory to the board that such person has practices surveying for not less than 10 years shall be exempted from the provisions of subdivision (b)(1).

2. What is the cost associated with becoming licensed as a land surveyor in Tennessee?

Application Fee	\$200.00
Principles & Practices of Land Surveying Exam (PS)	\$150.00
Tennessee Specifics of Land Surveying Exam (TS)	\$150.00
Fundamentals of Land Surveying Exam (FS)	\$125.00
PLSIT* Application Fee	\$ 25.00
Certificate of Registration	\$100.00

**Professional Land Surveyor-in-Training*

3. How do I get an application packet?

You can download the application packet from our website at www.tn.gov/commerce/boards/surveyors or you can contact the board office at 615-741-3611 to have one mailed to you.

4. What is the deadline to have your application in to the board?

The deadline for all applications is August 1 for the October exam and February 1 for all applications for the April exam. (These dates are subject to change at the discretion of the board.)

5. Does Tennessee reciprocate with other states?

Under TCA 62-18-110 Reciprocity – Any applicant may, in the absence of disqualifying evidence, be deemed by the board to be fully qualified to practice land surveying if such applicant holds a like unexpired certificate of registration issued to the applicant after examination by proper authority in the District of Columbia or in any state or territory in the United States in which the examination and requirements for the registration of land surveyors are of a standard satisfactory to the board.

All applicants for reciprocity will have to complete an application packet and take and pass the 2-hour Tennessee law exam.

6. How often do you renew your Tennessee Land Surveyor's License?

Certificates of registration expire on December 31 of each odd-numbered year and are invalid after such date unless renewed. It is the sole responsibility of any person registered as a land surveyor to renew such person's registration on or before the date of its expiration.

7. How much is the renewal fee?

\$280.00

8. Does Tennessee require continuing education?

Yes, 15 hours are required EVERY year. You only pay renewal fees every two years, but you have to complete and submit 15 hours of continuing education every year.

9. Can I carry over continuing education hours?

You can carry over up to 15 hours of continuing education hours per year.

10. How early can I renew my license:

Licensees may renew their license up to 60 days before expiration.

11. What are the renewal requirements?

- i. **Pay renewal fee \$280.00 every odd year (biennial renewal)**
- ii. **Complete and submit to the board office 15 hours of continuing education every year**

12. Can I renew my license online?

No, not at this time.

13. What if my license has expired?

- i. How much time do you allow licensees in expired status to renew with a late fee? **Certificates of registration shall be subject to late renewal for a period of one (1) year following their expiration date by payment of the renewal fee, plus a penalty in an amount as set by the board, for each month or fraction thereof which elapses before payment is received.**

Any person whose registration has expired for more than one (1) year shall make application for registration; provided that the board may, in its discretion, waive any further examination of such an applicant.

- ii. How much is the late fee? **\$20.00 for each month or fraction thereof which elapses before payment is received**
- iii. What happens after the licensee has exceeded the grace period to renew? **He/she has to reapply.**

14. What do I do if I need file a complaint with the board?

You may download a complaint form from our website at www.tn.gov/commerce/boards/surveyors, or you call the board office at 615-741-3611 and we can mail you a complaint form package.

15. What happens after I file a complaint?

Once the complaint is received in the board office, it is opened and assigned a complaint number. A request for a response is then sent, via certified mail, along with a copy of the complaint, to the respondent, who has 14 business days from the time he receives the request and complaint, to respond to the complaint. If a response is not received within the 14 days, the complaint is sent to our legal department for review and is then presented to the board for action. The complaint is sent to the legal department after 14 day deadline regardless of whether a response is received. A letter is also sent to the complainant acknowledging receipt of the complaint and a copy of the respondent's response is also sent to the complainant when it is received in the board office.

16. Do I need an attorney to represent me if a complaint has been filed against me?

It is your choice as to whether you want any attorney. It is not required by the board.

17. What happens to me if the allegations in the complaint are unfounded?

You still need to file a response to the complaint with the board. If the board finds that the complaint is unfounded, they will generally dismiss the complaint.

18. What happens to me if the allegations in the complaint are true?

Depending on the violations found and the severity of the violations, the board will take the appropriate action.

19. Is disciplinary action available to the public?

Yes, disciplinary actions are listed on the Regulatory Boards website at www.tn.gov/commerce/boards/surveyors

20. How can I get a copy of the Laws and Rules for the Board?

We can mail you a copy or you can get one by visiting the LexisNexis link on our website at www.tn.gov/commerce/boards/surveyors

21. If I need additional information, who should I contact?

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